# Presbyterian Church of the Cross

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TO CHRIST TO EACH OTHER TO THE WORLD

Rev. Dr. M. Gray Clark prescc@triad.twcbc.com
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Church: 336.274.5467; Cell: 336.339.1398 Facebook

10:00 am

# **FEBRUARY CALENDAR**

VV	'	Bible Study Tutoring Adult Choir Practice	12:00 noon 4:30 pm 6:30 pm
Sun	5	Sunday School Voices of Angels Worship Service SASTO NA Group	9:45 am 10:00 am 11:00 am
M W	6 8	Tutoring Bible Study Tutoring Adult Choir Practice Session	6:00 pm 4:30 pm 12:00 noon 4:30 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm
Sun	12	Sunday School Voices of Angels Worship Service SASTO NA Group	9:45 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm
M	13	Tutoring	4:30 pm
Tu	14	Happy Valentine's Day!	
W	15	Bible Study Tutoring Adult Choir Practice	12:00 noon 4:30 pm 6:30 pm
Sun	19	Sunday School Voices of Angels Worship Service SASTO NA Group	9:45 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm
М	20	<u>Crossties</u> Deadline	•
Tu W	21 22	Tutoring Salem Presbytery Meeting Bible Study Tutoring Adult Choir Practice	4:30 pm 9:00 am 12:00 noon 4:30 pm 6:30 pm

# **VALENTINE'S LOVE**

The early days of Christianity were not easy ones. There was a believer named Valentine, who dared to oppose the Emperor Claudius. You could be a quiet Christian in those days but if you were serious about the Christian faith it was illegal. You could be thrown in jail or executed. Valentine was charged with preaching the message of Jesus Christ, teaching about love and marrying many couples (because married men were exempt from serving in the military).

This so enraged the Emperor, that he was arrested thrown in jail and beaten. While in jail he continued to share the message of Jesus Christ and even healed the jailer's daughter of blindness. Eventually, he was released but continued to tell of the love of Jesus and how the only commandment was that we love one another. This enraged the Emperor who was trying desperately to recruit soldiers to protect his borders. Valentine also said that God alone was the supreme power and not the Emperor. Once more he was arrested and beaten, then when he refused to agree with denying Jesus as Lord, he was beheaded. Before his death, he left a note to the jailer's daughter telling her of the unending love of God and signed it "Your Valentine."

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# FEBRUARY CALENDAR, continued

Sun	26	Sunday School	9:45 am
		Voices of Angels	10:00 am
		Worship Service	11:00 am
		SASTO NA Group	6:00 pm
М	27	Tutoring .	4:30 pm

### VALENTINE'S LOVE, continued

Speaking out against the powers that be in the ancient world and even today can be risky. Especially, if the love of God gets in the way of political agendas. One fact that cannot be denied is that the empire of Rome crumbled, emperor Claudius is barely remembered, but that the love of God has remained all these years to remind us that love is eternal. Nations and rulers come and go, but the love of God remains constant. As the apostle Paul reminds the Romans in the New Testament, "I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

# CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Looking for something for the kids to do? Bring them to Sunday School every Sunday at 9:45 am. They have lessons, crafts and activities. (On February 12, they will be having a special Valentine activity and party.) Most Sundays at 10:00 am they (Our children's choir is known as the Voices of Angels.) sing under the direction of Mr. John Huskey, our Music Director, and often sing what they are learning during our worship service at 11:00 am. They are also working toward singing at The Children's Jubilee on April 23 at 4:00 pm.

So do your part – bring your children, your nieces and nephews, grandchildren, friends and neighbors...the more children that come, the more fun they have. And, while they are in their class, we also have a class for adults that you can attend. Come one and all!!

# **NOTARY PUBLIC**

It is so frustrating to need a notary public and not be able to find one! Well, we have a solution...a notary public among us – Mr. James R. Kellam! Give Jim Kellam a call at 336-509-0590. He will be glad to help you if he can.

# **ADDRESS UPDATES**

Please notify the church office with your current mailing address, email address, phone number (both landline and cell); make sure we have the correct spelling of your name and the names of anyone in your household (spouse, children, etc.) who would like to be included in our 2017 Church Directory. This year the Directory is going to happen!!!

### CHURCH OFFICERS

Class of 2017: Brenda McLean, Caroline Owen, Kelly Patterson, Kaye Peeples

Class of 2018: Jim Kellam, Jane Manley, Joanne Miles, Georgia Stevenson

Class of 2019: Elaine Morehead, Gloria Nichols, Sharon Ozment, Harry Patterson

#### WE NEED YOU TO SERVE ON A COMMITTEE!

The leadership of your church wants your help and involvement in one or more of the following committees. Please let us know which committee you'd like to work with ASAP by dropping a note including your name, phone number, and committee(s) of interest into the offering plate or by calling the church office at 336-274-5467.

**Caring Committee:** In charge of oversight of those who are in need, the hungry, homeless, the elderly, those who are homebound or in assisted living communities

Fund Raising Committee: In charge of establishing methods and events to raise money outside of the established offerings, to work in concert with the "Stewardship" Committee

**Outreach:** In charge of establishing and maintaining methods, organizations and means to spread the gospel and ministry in the name of Jesus Christ to all in the community

**Stewardship of God's Gifts** (formerly Resourcing): In charge of oversight of finances, giving opportunities, the use and maintenance of church property

**Growth & Nurture:** In charge of the spiritual growth of the congregation including but not limited to Christian Education, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Bible/book studies, etc.

#### 2017 OFFERING ENVELOPES

A number of you haven't picked up your 2017 offering envelopes which can be found in the hall outside the sanctuary. If you do not find a set of envelopes assigned to you, please sign the sheet on that table so we can correct that oversight. They will be ready for you to pick up the next Sunday.

#### **BIBLE STUDY RESUMES**

Our Bible Study of the Gospel of John, led by our minister Gray Clark, has resumed meeting on Wednesdays at 12:00 noon. All are welcome to participate!

Dr. Clark periodically leads a Bible/book study during the year. If you have a suggestion of a topic or scripture you would like to study, please mention it to Gray.

#### THE STRENGTH OF LOVE

**fore** is the ingredient that makes every relationship in life, whatever it is, a little better.

**fore** has a capacity to mend the broken, heal the hurting, and inspire the despairing.

**fore** that reaches beyond the misunderstandings and the failures is a love that unites and encourages. Such a love is one of our world's greatest needs.